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MINNESOTA'S 2003 MILK PRODUCTION FALLS 2%

Minnesota's dairy cows produced an annual average of 17,459 pounds per cow in the year 2003, 91 pounds more than the 17,368 pounds per cow in 2002. The revised 2003 estimate of milk production is now set at 8,258 million pounds, according to the Minnesota Agricultural Statistics Service. This was a drop of 2% from the 2002 total of 8,458, and represents the lowest annual milk output for Minnesota since 1952.

January 2004 milk production totaled 704 million pounds in Minnesota, down 4% from the 730 million pounds produced in January 2003. Revised December 2003 milk output was 691 million pounds. Minnesota production per cow averaged 1,515 pounds in January 2004, down 5 pounds from last January. The revised December rate was 1,485 pounds per cow. The average number of milk cows on farms in Minnesota during January 2003 was 465,000 head, unchanged from December, but 15,000 below a year ago.

JANUARY MILK PRODUCTION DOWN 1% IN MAJOR STATES

Milk production during January 2004 totaled 12.50 billion pounds, down 1% from January 2003 in the 20 major states. Revised December 2003 production for the 20 states was 12.31 billion pounds.

Production per cow in the 20 states averaged 1,620 pounds during January 2004, up 5 pounds from January 2003. Revised December output per cow was 1,596 pounds. The number of milk cows in the 20 major states during January averaged 7.72 million head, down 92,000 from a year ago.

Annual U.S. production for all states for 2003 totaled 170.31 billion pounds, up less than half of 1% from 2002 production. Annual average milk production per cow for all states for 2003 was 18,749 pounds, a gain of 141 pounds from 2002. Milk cow numbers averaged 9.08 million for all states in 2003, a decline of 55,000 from the previous year.

MILK PRODUCTION, MAJOR STATES

State	MILK COWS			RATE PER COW			MILK PRODUCTION			
	Jan 2003	Dec 2003 Rev.	Jan 2004	Jan 2003	Dec 2003 Rev.	Jan 2004	Jan 2003	Dec 2003 Rev.	Jan 2004	2004 as % of 2003
	<u>Thousand Head</u>			<u>Pounds</u>			<u>Million Pounds</u>			<u>Percent</u>
CA	1,672	1,697	1,702	1,790	1,740	1,755	2,993	2,953	2,987	100
ID	392	412	412	1,800	1,800	1,800	706	742	742	105
MN	480	465	465	1,520	1,485	1,515	730	691	704	96
NY	675	657	658	1,515	1,480	1,495	1,023	972	984	96
PA	590	562	563	1,540	1,480	1,500	909	832	845	93
WI	1,265	1,247	1,245	1,500	1,485	1,510	1,898	1,852	1,880	99
20 States	7,810	7,713	7,718	1,615	1,596	1,620	12,616	12,313	12,502	99